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TALKING POINTS--NARCOTICS STUDY

Background

- Narcotics Working Group (NWG) chartered by CIPC to explore intelligence support to international narcotics problem and make recommendations for its improvement.
- The NWG, organized in early April 1983, chaired by Deputy Director/Office of Intelligence Liaison and Coordinator of Foreign Narcotics Intelligence/INR. STAT
- It brought together some 17 substantive working-level representatives from both the Intelligence and Narcotics Law Enforcement Communities.
- Set August as target date for study.
- Executive Summary transmitted to members on 27 September--full CIPC Meeting on 11 October.

Goal

- To develop for the DCI an all-source comprehensive study of intelligence support to a broad range of narcotics control concerns. The study, with its recommendations, provides the basis for guiding the development of additional capabilities needed by the Intelligence Community in FY 85 and beyond to support the strategic narcotics objectives of the US.

Key Judgments

- Without authoritative statement of policy purpose, difficult to assess allocation of resources between supply control policy and investigative/interdiction strategies.
- Question of how far national intelligence capabilities can go in support of law enforcement activities remains contentious--but solution may lie more in educative process than in new legislation.
- Despite these problems, major progress has been made over past year under direction of National Intelligence Officer for Narcotics, including production of two National Intelligence Estimates; development of collection plans to meet expanded intelligence requirements; and noticeable increase in narcotics intelligence production.
- Significant areas of concern remain. They include:
 - The management of all collection disciplines at the level of priority necessary to match up successfully against other critical national intelligence requirements.
 - Committed assurance of a gradual increase in personnel to parallel the increasing flow of information for analysis now being taught.

Recommendations

- The report makes 53 separate recommendations under four general categories for the purpose of budget review. Within this framework, they have been arranged by intelligence discipline.

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- Recommendations focus on all collection disciplines; on all aspects of the intelligence process (analysis, production, dissemination); and on ways to improve support relative to law enforcement organizations.
Two examples:

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- Of vital importance is the experience of the six-month cooperative effort, itself, which has brought both the Intelligence and law enforcement communities closer together. The forging of such "cross-community" relationships will certainly ease the problems of coordination in the future.

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PREFACE

Reducing the global supply of narcotics and impeding the flow of illicit drugs into the United States are major challenges to US foreign policy in the 1980s. The development and monitoring of narcotics control initiatives and the enhancement of law enforcement efforts directed against narcotics producing and trafficking activities have generated demands for intelligence support on a broad front.

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INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS COORDINATION AND COLLECTION STUDY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARYI. Introduction

1 This study assesses the adequacy of intelligence support to US international narcotics control efforts. It was prepared by the Narcotics Working Group, a 17-member interagency activity under the direction of the DCI's Critical Intelligence Problems Committee (CIPC). The Working Group, which comprises representatives from the Intelligence Community and from the narcotics law enforcement community, has been meeting regularly since April 1983. 

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2 The Working Group was charged with the responsibility for examining intelligence support to a broad range of narcotics control concerns running the gamut from areas of more traditional policy interest--e.g., estimating narcotics crop production--to new demands for Intelligence Community support to law enforcement activities. 

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3 The Working Group's inquiry explored the historical relationship between narcotics control policy and intelligence and the implications of its legacy--shifting policy interests, competition for resources, and increasing legal 25X1

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constraints--on our abilities to meet the contemporary challenge of supporting current Federal narcotics control strategy, particularly in narcotics supply reduction, investigative, and interdiction efforts. [REDACTED]

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II. Key Judgments

Intelligence plays a central role in the development and conduct of narcotics control policy and is an essential element of narcotics investigation and interdiction efforts:

- The Intelligence Community has demonstrated historically the capability to provide comprehensive and timely intelligence support in this area whenever priorities have been clearly established.
- Shifts in the importance of narcotics intelligence vis-a-vis other foreign policy issues, and changes in emphasis on different aspects of narcotics control policy, however, have profoundly affected intelligence support, and have raised serious questions about the allocation of intelligence resources to Federal narcotics control initiatives.
- For a variety of reasons (information collection activities by law enforcement officers, the decreasing priority given to narcotics control as a foreign policy issue, and the lower priority attached to it as an intelligence target), by the late 1970s Intelligence

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Community support in this area was weak--the notable exception being an enhanced capability in crop estimation.

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- 8 ● Furthermore, there was little national level coordination among Intelligence Community agencies on either intelligence collection or intelligence production, and even less coordination between the Intelligence Community and the law enforcement community.

- 9 Although there is now a renewed commitment to international narcotics control policy, this legacy from the past continues to influence contemporary considerations.

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- 10 ● *One central issue which has troubled the Working Group since its inception has been the question of which aspect of narcotics control strategy should receive priority in intelligence support. Competition for scarce intelligence resources has diffused the national narcotics intelligence effort; even with significant increases in budgetary and personnel resources, it is unlikely that all intelligence requirements could be met. Without an authoritative statement of policy purpose, it has been difficult to assess the allocation of resources between supply control policy and investigative/interdiction strategies, let alone make recommendations for enhancement of collection or production programs.*

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